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The Effects of Thick Love

The word love is constantly thrown around in relationships. Some may use it to express their feelings about a person while others use the word love to their advantage or to manipulate others. However, parents in particular mothers have a love for their child that is like no other. This love can be considered to be unconditional. Unconditional love can be very hard to find in today’s society so when one shows it, people do seem to get confuse. In Beloved, Sethe had unconditional love for her children. From the readers point of view and also the other characters point of view, it may not seem that Sethe had unconditional love because she tried murdering all her kids and did end up killing one of them (Beloved). Nevertheless, unconditional love or thick love requires for one to take certain measures that the outside viewers would not understand but indeed these measures are taken out of love.

At the center of my creative project I have a red heart that is symbolic for love. Within this heart there are pictures of caring mothers and their children. These pictures represent how a mother is very compassionate to their children. After carrying a child for nine months, a mother has no other choice but to love their children because they are an essential part of them. A mother loving her child is like a mother loving herself. In domesticity, a mother’s care and love is very important to a child. At the center of the heart, there is a poem titled “You are a Good Parent”. This poem explains how outsiders are always there to criticize how a parent raises their child or their action. However, a mother always will know what is best for her child, as Sethe knew what was best for her children.

A mother may experience certain things in their life that they will never want their child to experience. For example, Sethe did not want her kids to go through the traumas of slavery. Sethe was abused and violated while she was a slave and as a mother with unconditional love for her children, she was willing to do anything to keep her kids away from slavery. Killing your own children from the outsider’s prospective may seem extreme or wrong; but, these outsiders must keep in mind that they are not in Sethe’s shoes. Outsiders are not the one who lives with the pain and trauma that Sethe lives with on a day to day basis. Sethe knew what was best for the kids that she carried for nine months in her womb and took immediate actions when she felt that her kids were going to be taken by the slave masters. Another example is the video that I showed during my presentation of Tonya Thomas. Ms. Thomas did not want her kids to experience the abuse that she went through so taking their lives and herself served to her as a way of escaping the domestic abuse and protecting her children.

Furthermore, throughout *Beloved* Paul D. and other members of the community continuously told Sethe that her love was too deep or too thick for her children. A lot of people fault Sethe for having unconditional love for her kids and suggested that she should not have thick love for anyone, not even her kids. This made me think of how impossible it can be for a mother to not want to care and protect her children. This also relates to me on a personal level because I was raised in a household where my mother protected myself and my siblings to the best of her abilities. My father was present, however, my mother felt that her kids are her own flesh and because my mother had such a mindset, she protected us even more than our father could have. Also, in situations where there is no male figure present in a home, a mother’s love grows to be even more unconditional because that child depends only on their mother.

In conclusion, my project served as a means to show how a mother can have unconditional love for her child. When someone has unconditional love for their child, they are willing to do anything to protect them. These actions may seem extreme to others but, a mother will always know what is best for her child. This is extremely important because when a child feels neglected and not loved unconditionally it can result in bad decision making and cause harm to themselves. Domesticity in itself requires for a parent to have unconditional love for their child in order for the child to thrive in society.